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The Anti-Japanese Agitation

The following is the Literary Digest's resume of the Anti-Japanese agitation which the San Francisco Chronicle is carrying on with such vigor:

A well-defined movement has been begun in California for the restriction of Japanese immigration, and the subject, which has been touched on lightly heretofore, is invested by the Pacific coast papers with as much importance as is attributed to the matter of Chinese immigration. The movement was started by the San Francisco Chronicle, which, in daily editorials, dwelt upon the menace of the Japanese invasion to the business and social life of California. Governor Pardee, Lieutenant-Governor Anderson, and the State Legislature have also joined in the movement. Both houses of the legislature have adopted resolutions calling the attention of the President and Congress to the subject, and demanding that action be taken without delay, by treaty or otherwise, "tending to limit within reasonable bounds and diminish in a marked degree the further immigration of Japanese laborers to the United States." It is pointed out in various newspapers that there are about 100,000 Japanese in the United States, and that, of these, only about 8,000 have landed in San Francisco from 1901 to 1904; but it is feared that the end of the Russo-Japanese war will throw a million or more men on their own resources. Therefore an influx of Japanese, mostly coolies in search of work, is expected on the western coast of the United States. Even now from Hawaii comes the report that the Japanese are likely to overrun that island if Americans do not take steps to prevent it, and San Francisco papers state that steamship agents are in Hawaii to deplete the plantations in order to fill contracts made in the United States.

The problem "contains as much of menace as the matter of Chinese immigration ever did," declares the Santa Clara (Cal.) Journal; and the Hanford (Cal.) Sentinel remarks that "the Chinese question was one great bone of contention, but it was a fish bone compared to what the Japanese question soon will be to the white man's home and the white man's occupation here in this country if measures are not taken to limit the inflow of the Asiatics." The San Francisco Argonaut says the people on the Pacific coast will have to fight the battle alone, since "we shall not be able at the present time to impose our beliefs about Japanese exclusion upon the people of the nation—80,000,000 of them—who have been carefully educated to believe the Jap a charming little hero." The San Francisco Chronicle points out that certain industries are passing into the hands of the Japanese, and that Japanese gang labor is displacing white labor in certain districts by underbidding it. If the process is continued there is going to be trouble sooner or later in the form of race riots and acts of violence. "With no idle mouths to feed," says The Chronicle, "they herd in old shacks, and can exist and lay up money where white men with families to support would starve."

An Important Expedition

The United States Fish Commission's Steamship Albatross, which spent a winter in these waters two or three years ago, has during the past few months been in southern waters on a scientific expedition somewhat different from that in which she has usually engaged. In addition to deep sea soundings her voyage had for its principal object the determination of the origin and age of the remarkable statues on Easter Island. For years research work has been in progress in connection with these sculptures which are of great antiquity, and although many theories have been advanced, no definite conclusions have been generally accepted. The expedition was under the direction of Prof. Agassiz, and spent three weeks at Easter Island.

Easter Island, one of the most interesting spots in the Pacific, is remarkably isolated, for it is 2030 miles from the coast of Chili, and 1500 miles from the nearest inhabited land, except Pitcairn Island, so that its people and their history is an ethnographical problem worthy of much consideration. The island is too small to sustain a large population, and water is not very abundant. Easter Island, it may be interesting to note, was discovered by Roggeveen on Easter Sunday, in the year 1721. Cook and La Perouse visited it, and their accounts invested the island with great interest. It was first surveyed by Admiral Beechy, in H. M. S. Blossom, in the year 1825, and was again visited by H. M. S. Topaze in November, 1868, when further surveys were conducted. In 1882 H. M. S. Sappho paid a visit to the island, and made more extensive researches.

The natives of Easter Island are very light in complexion; in fact they are almost white, and mostly resemble the Marquesans. They are thought, however, by some to far surpass this reputed handsome race in personal beauty. Their language is Polynesian. The origin of this interesting people is one of the most important problems connected with the migration of races. They have but one tradition, which is that ages ago their ancestors came in a large boat from Rapa (Oparo), which is 1900 miles to the westward, and landed at Ounipu, a bay on the east side. Their king was with them, and he made the statues (of which there are large numbers) out of a quarry which was in a crater in which he lived. How these early navigators in their canoes managed to reach this lonely spot in the teeth of the usual trade winds is one of those mysteries the solution of which would clear up many difficulties in the history of the early races and civilization of Peru and Central America.

The sculptured work and terraced platforms of former inhabitants, have caused great astonishment. The character of these architectural remains, the records tell us, evidently point to an eastern origin. The great stone busts or images which are scattered over the island in very great numbers are most remarkable. They are usually from 15 feet to 18 feet high, and in one case 34 feet. They are all formed of one material, grey compact lava (trachyte) found in the crater of Otuiti, at the northeast end of the island, where unfinished images are still to be seen. In form they are trunks, terminating at the hips, the arms close to the side, the hands sculptured in low relief and clasping the hips. The head is very flat, the top of the forehead cut off level, so as to allow the crown to be put on. The crowns are made of red tufa, found in the Terano Hau crater, in shape short truncated cones, or nearly cylindrical. The faces are square, massive, and sternly disdainful in expression, and the aspect always upwards.

Sir Clements Markham, president of the Royal Geographical Society, referring some years ago to these sculptures, said that it was impossible not to be struck with the resemblance between these remains and those of the Aymara, an ancient Peruvian race. On Easter Island each of these statues has its special name, but they are not idols. Some are of immense age, and others much more recent. The remains of the greatest age are the sculptured stones on the brink of the sea-cliffs at Terano Hau, at the south end of the island, where the last lava stream reached the sea.

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J. Alfred Magoon veritably acted the part of a gladiator at bay against great odds before the Supreme Court yesterday. He won upon several points of a preliminary sort and lost upon but one. The setting aside of two judges who came to try him, the continuance of return day on his citation until Wednesday, the substitution of a possible plea in bar for a return, then, and an understanding that he might file a motion for continuance of the hearing, when the day arrived, were points the accused attorney won.—Advertiser.

The setting aside of one of the judges was a result of a suggestion from the judge himself, while the other judge peremptorily refused to serve; Wednesday was the return day suggested by counsel opposed to Magoon, as against Magoon's suggestion of the opening day of the May term; the substitution of a possible plea in bar for a return no more needs fighting for than the right to file an answer instead of a demurrer; the matter of filing a motion for a continuance is something which the representative of the Territory demands as against Magoon's claim that he might make it orally and have the court hear it, which the court refused to do.

John J. Woolley, who comes by the Sonoma tomorrow, is one of the intellectual giants of the lecture platform in these days. He was the prohibitionist candidate for President some years ago, and received more votes than any other man who ever ran on that ticket. But aside from his particular political views, he is recognized as a man of great intellectual capacity, and a speaker of commanding interest on whatever theme he touches.

It is to be hoped this question of speed will be straightened out very quickly and the Rapid Transit Company get back to a service that passengers can calculate on and be able to make connections.

If Rojevonsky inflicts losses on Togo equal to his own, in the expected engagement, it will be the first time a Russian naval commander has done as much in any important engagement of the war.

If High Sheriff Henry's twitl proposition had been let alone, it would have been one of the finest political machines one could imagine, by the time the campaign and election under the County act comes along. There was enough opportunity for graft in it to have carried a good many primaries and election precincts, if properly worked.

The inquest on the Chinaman who was killed at Waipahu will give Deputy-High Sheriff Rawlins a chance to write a companion piece to his now

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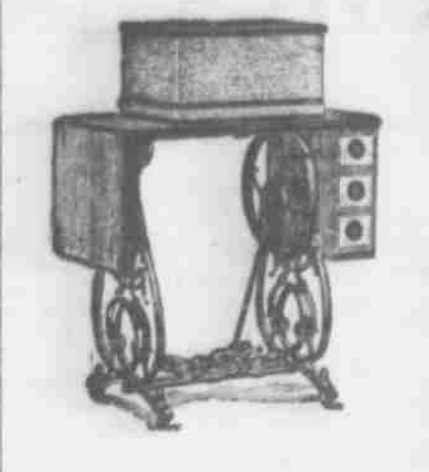
Washington says that Saigon is capable of accommodating the Russian ships and Paris says that it is not. It will be generally agreed that the Russian ships will find plenty of room in their ultimate berth, Davy Jones' locker.

The spectacle of Ex-Sheriff Andrews in jail must have warmed many Hilo hearts, for the ex-sheriff has put many others there, and revenge is especially sweet among the class which includes most of them.

It is a strange transformation of problems that has suddenly confronted local investigators. Hitherto the financial problem has been who didn't pay things. Now the question of Who Paid Smith has arisen, and no one comes forward to claim the honor and receive thanks for the generosity of donating \$70 a month to a police official and thus saving the Territory that much.

Progress in the House and the presence of Kanio seem to work in inverse ratio.

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